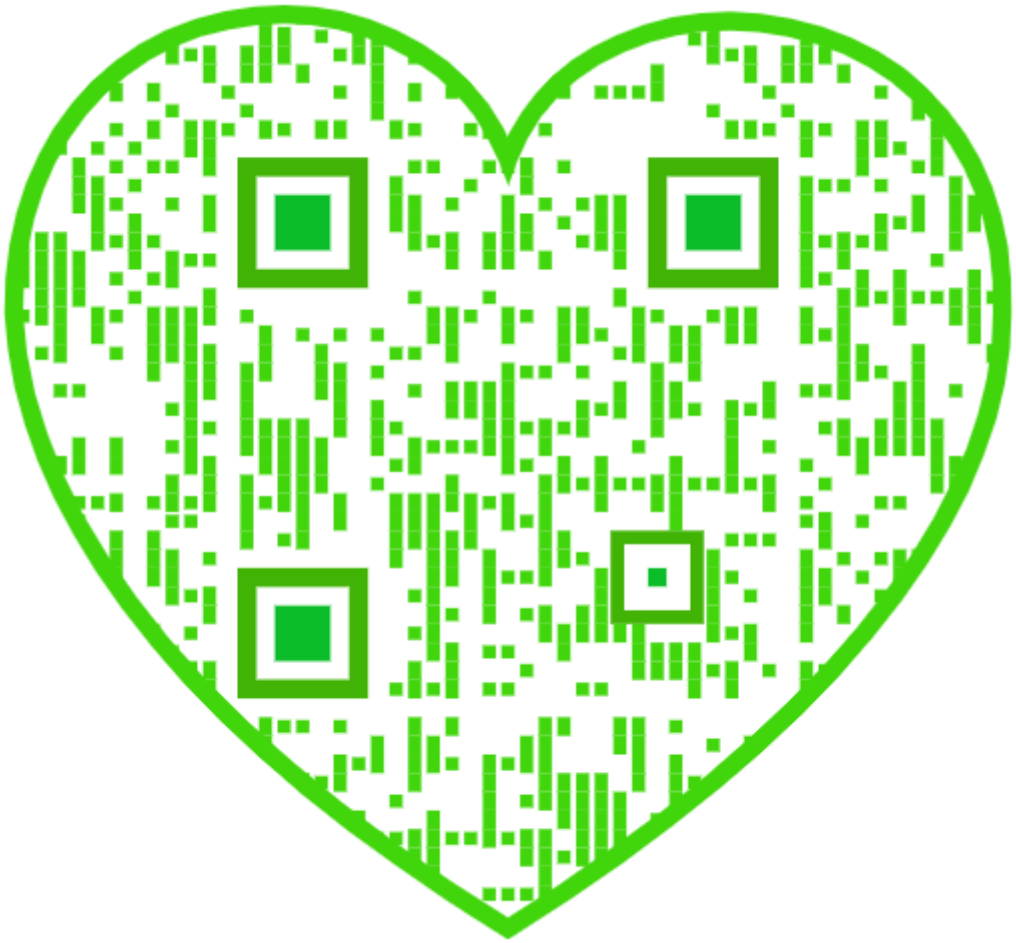

CANE BASKET WORK.

MESSAGE BASKET.

EGG BASKET NO. I.

TWO USEFUL BASKETS. (*See page* 82.)

CANE BASKET WORK:

A PRACTICAL MANUAL

ON

WEAVING USEFUL AND FANCY BASKETS.

ILLUSTRATED.

(SECOND SERIES.)

BY

ANNIE FIRTH.

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PREFACE TO SECOND SERIES.

In issuing a Second Book on "Cane Basket Work" I heartily thank my many friends who have taken up a much-neglected industry (in the way of fancy baskets, especially those which are so plentifully produced in France and Germany), and have proved that it has been, and is still, supplying a long-felt want to our sick poor, and in remote country places where there is so little occupation during the long winter evenings. In many English villages fancy Basket-making has made rapid strides, and it has added very much to the scanty means of the workers; but Scottish villages bid fair to outdo them, as the latter are so alive to the fact of its being a very valuable industry.

I also wish to express my gratitude to the many readers of the First Book who have written to me in such a kindly way of the help they have received.

This Book is intended for those who know something about the method of Basket-making as described in the First Book; but as it has been

written under very painful circumstances, I would add that if anyone should find the directions for making a basket insufficient, and will write to me, enclosing a stamped envelope, I will gladly give further information.

ANNIE FIRTH.

39, Kirkstall Road,
Streatham Hill,
London, S.W.

April, 1901.

CANE BASKET WORK.

SECOND SERIES.

INTRODUCTORY.

It was with some expectation of the encouragement received that Book I. was placed before the public. Its success has been very great, and so many of its readers are impatiently asking for more that Book II. seems almost a necessity. The Art of Cane Basket Work was then in its infancy, but those who were becoming familiar with it felt that its unknown future might prove of value to many, with possibilities of real importance to the country at large.

Though it would have been unreasonable to expect more than has been accomplished in so short a time, much remains to be done. Many of

the obstacles which then hindered development are difficulties still, and the number of Institutions which have taken up the art is, as yet, comparatively small, though slowly increasing. What a boon this new interest should be to the many self-occupied sufferers in Convalescent Homes and Homes for Epileptics, Inebriates, or Incurables! Even if no great financial benefit accrued to the Institution, it would while away many a weary hour for the poor inmates, and help towards the funds might be confidently expected from the sale of the baskets produced. The finer work can be done by most invalids of both sexes; men in good health generally prefer the heavier work, and, as a rule, do it extremely well. It has already been a boon to many who are only too glad to find an employment which is restful to eye and brain, while giving the mind an enjoyable interest. Cane Basket Work should also prove useful to our soldiers when they return home from the front.

It is a much easier matter to take up work of this kind in a place where no extra rent has to be paid for work-rooms, nor wages provided for workers, than to start the smallest of manufactories. New industries are not established in a few months. It takes time to train novices to do the work when ordered, as well as to get orders for the workers when trained. If this art is to enable the country

to retain the thousands of pounds which are annually paid to foreign basket manufacturers, public interest must be aroused in every possible way, and large buyers of the baskets which are seen in the windows of our florists, milliners, and confectioners must have positive proof that such can be made at home.

But in Institutions, and in villages where the effort is made to establish Cane Work as an industry, no teacher must be expected to succeed if single-handed, nor to produce large results in one, or even two, courses of instruction. The directions given in one lesson must be steadily followed, the workers must be allowed time and material for practice, and there must be persons on the spot who are thoroughly interested in the learners, and who will learn at the same time in order to help in a practical way.

The art has proved itself capable of immense development. New shapes, new designs in weaving, new kinds of borders, new ideas in decoration, are constantly suggesting themselves, and the most advanced of teachers are still learning.

It must be admitted with regret that many of the baskets still seen at bazaars are only libels on the art, though time has but proved the truth of a previous assertion that good and even work may be produced by the exercise of a little patience and perseverance.

Cane Basket Work has some formidable enemies. English willow-workers imagine it will injure their trade, heads of scholastic departments treat it as a mere kindergarten amusement; but the most formidable may be found among its most enthusiastic admirers. These are generally ladies who have had a few lessons, and *sometimes* make a basket on a wet afternoon. Their productions are presented to friends for themselves or for their bazaars, and the thought of the kindly feeling which prompted the gift covers all imperfections. Perhaps they are offered for sale in aid of some benevolent object, and there are few who would not help by purchasing a basket in spite of its shape. But these are also seen and examined by others, many of whom would be delighted to find profitable and interesting employment for the inmates of Homes and Institutions in other places. The work is scanned, the head is shaken, and irreparable mischief has been done. Good work may never be seen by these same critics, their interest in Basket Work has ceased, and the erroneous impressions received are not only never eradicated from their own minds, but passed on to others in all good faith.

At the very root of all misconception lies the idea that a few lessons will suffice to make a good worker, if not a competent teacher. From no other art is so much expected. No one supposes it possible to obtain a means of earning a living by

a few weeks of the practice of any other handicraft; nor is this one an exception to the general rule.

For individuals who intend to take up this employment as a profession, a thorough and steady training for twelve months is generally necessary. Basket Work looks "so easy," and from one point of view this is true. There are few pupils who could not make a basket of some kind after the first lesson; and after a few lessons really nice baskets should be produced, sufficiently well made to offer as presents to friends. But work for the public market is quite another matter. Orders must be expected for special shapes, and for dozens at a time, not for single baskets of any shape turned out by the worker. Where are the amateurs who would care to undertake a wholesale order, especially if they have never tried to make a pair of any special kind? This involves not only the training of the hand for even and regular weaving, but the training of the eye for shaping, and such is not accomplished in a month or two. For this reason the necessity of this "long course of training" is insisted on by those who are thoroughly acquainted with the work in all its details. In a few rare cases, where the eye has already been trained in some other way, the difficulties may be mastered more quickly. To be able to make pretty and saleable baskets is not enough: the ability to shape accurately is the all-

important point. If this were understood there would be fewer applications for employment and less disappointment for applicants. Any who have succeeded in making Cane Work a profession have done so at the cost of no small amount of energy and perseverance, and others must not expect to find an easier road to success.

Private individuals who can weave evenly can generally find a market for their baskets. Good work will always command a sale, and in every town it is surely possible to find a shop where this can be sold on commission—a much happier arrangement for amateurs than getting orders for a number of baskets of the same shape. It would probably be some time before two would turn out exactly alike, however pretty and effective each might be.

It is sometimes difficult to convince people that Cane Work and Willow Work are not synonymous terms. The principle of weaving must always be the same, whether used in the willow work we see on the gipsy vans, in the paper mats made by kindergarten children, or in the seats of the chairs found in every house. But willows need such different manipulation that those who have had lessons from willow-workers, with the idea of using the same instructions for Cane-weaving, never turn out first-class work, and a practised eye can tell at once what was the source of their knowledge.

The one industry, however, will not injure the other: the two need never clash. The osiers and willows grown in our country are most suitable for the clothes-baskets, hampers, &c., for which they are used, while cane of the same size would be totally unsuitable for similar uses, being much too brittle to manipulate in the same way. Willows have one serious disadvantage—they must be soaked for hours before it is possible to weave with them. Many people use cane without even damping it, but in any case it is sufficient to dip the weaver in water; it can then be allowed to drain for a minute or two before being used. Others use a damp sponge as the work progresses.

As yet very few of the upper schools among the poorer classes have been allowed to receive lessons in Cane-weaving. It is supposed to be only a kindergarten occupation, though, as such, admitted to be of value in training the eye and hand, but as soon as the infant classes are left behind the work is dropped. Though the results would be so different in character, the weaving then learnt would be of value, if from the kindergarten the children were allowed to go on to Cane Basket Work in the usual acceptation of the term. Not only must the benefit to be derived from the same kind of training still continue, but many of the children in their leisure hours might make a little money by selling their

work, and in after life the instruction received ought to be turned to good account. If Cane Basket Work is eventually to become a national industry, the sooner young fingers are trained the better for the weaving in future years!

CHAPTER I.

BASES.

Round Base with Double Weavers.

(Figs. 1 to 5.)

Materials required.—12 spokes of No. 6 cane—6 inches.

Weave with No. 1 cane.

Take six of the twelve spokes, and with a sharp penknife make a split in the centre 1 inch long

FIG. 1.—SPLIT CANE FOR ROUND BASE WITH TWO WEAVERS.

(Fig. 1); thread the other six through them. The easiest way to do this is to open the split with the left hand, and, holding the six unsplit canes flat together in the right hand, slip the other cane over them (Fig. 2).

These spokes must all be kept quite flat, and cross exactly in the centre.

Take a strand of No. 1 cane, double it, leaving

one end about ½ yard longer than the other. This is done to avoid having all the joins in one place.

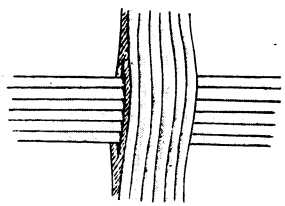

FIG. 2.—TWO SPOKES THREADED FOR ROUND BASE WITH TWO WEAVERS.

Slip the loop of the weaver over six of the split canes, bring the under weaver over the next six, and taking the top weaver under the same six spokes (Fig. 3).

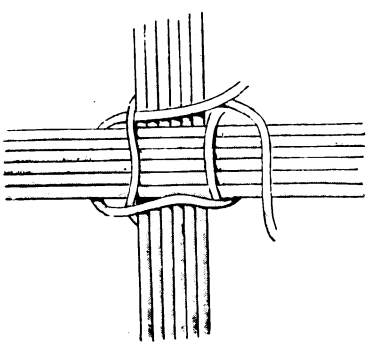

FIG. 3.—WEAVING OF ROUND BASE WITH TWO WEAVERS.

Repeat this round until the weaving crosses each six spokes three times. Be careful in doing this

always to bring the under weaver to the top before taking the top weaver underneath, otherwise the weavers get twisted.

When the weavers have been taken round the base three times, each four lots of six spokes must be divided into twos, and paired round by the same method as the foregoing (Fig. 4).

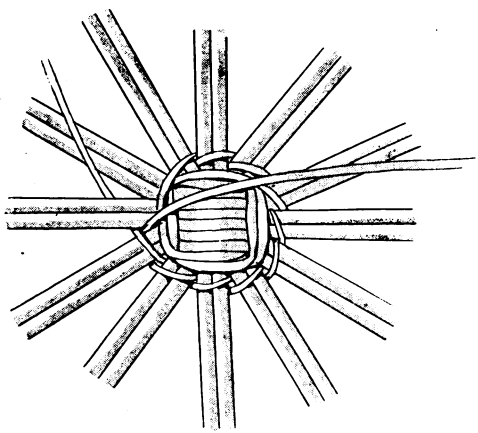

FIG. 4.—ROUND BASE WITH SPOKES IN PAIRS.

Do not fear to pull the spokes well apart, to make room for the weavers being drawn down as closely as possible.

After pairing three times round the two spokes, take each spoke separately and pair once round them all (Fig. 5); then continue weaving first with

one weaver and then with the other until the base is of the right size.

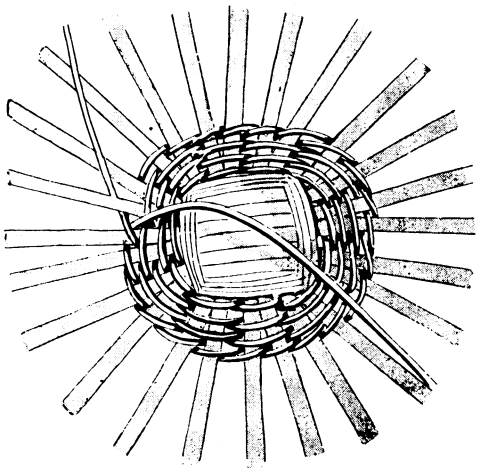

FIG. 5.—ROUND BASE WITH SPOKES SEPARATED.

Round Base with One Weaver.

Materials required.—10 spokes of No. 6 cane—6 inches.

1 spoke of No. 6 cane—4 inches.

Weave with No. 1 cane.

Split five of the ten spokes in the centre, and thread them on to the other five in same way as described for Round Base with Double Weavers.

Hold these in such a position that the split canes cross the others.

Place the end of a strand of No. 1 cane at the right hand of the upright spokes above the split canes and carry it across at the back to the left-hand side of the upright canes below the split canes; then take it over the five split canes and underneath the next five, catching in the end of the weaver at the same time.

Weave round until two weavers cross each lot of five split canes, and then begin at once to divide them into 2—1—2; weave once round, then take each spoke singly and weave round once.

At this point it will be seen that to continue weaving would bring the weaver over and under the same spokes in each round, so that an odd spoke must be put in. Point it and slip it through the end of the weaver where it crosses at the back; the weaver will go underneath this spoke, and after that the base can be worked up until it is of the desired size.

Oblong Oval Base.

(Figs. 6 and 7.)

Materials required.—Nos. 7 and 1 cane.
13 spokes of No. 7 cane—5 inches.
5 spokes of No. 7 cane—12 inches.

In making this base it is convenient to cut the five spokes going down the centre of sufficient length for the sides of the basket; the spokes threaded across must always be of an uneven number.

Split each of the thirteen in the centre and thread them all on to the five long spokes; place four on either side, and get the odd spoke exactly in the centre of the five spokes; allow ½ inch between the spokes, with two close together at each

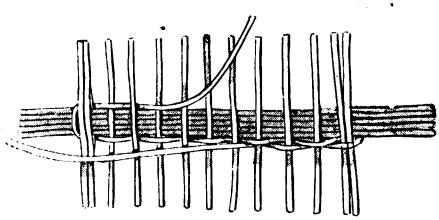

FIG. 6.—COMMENCING OBLONG OVAL BASE.

end (Fig. 6). Double the weaver and place the loop over the double side spokes. Take the weaver from underneath first and weave down the side; then go back and weave the top weaver down beside it, counting the double spokes at the end as one spoke.

While weaving down the side, hold the base flat on the table, and weave from left to right. To do the end, take up the base in the left hand, grasping the weavers where they pass the double

side spokes. Take the weaver from underneath and bring tightly across the five long spokes, place behind the double side spokes, then put the base flat on the table and weave down the side. Go back, taking up the base again, and take the top weaver behind the five spokes, lay down the base, then weave down the side. Repeat this until you have two weavers crossing the five spokes top and bottom and on either side. Divide the five spokes

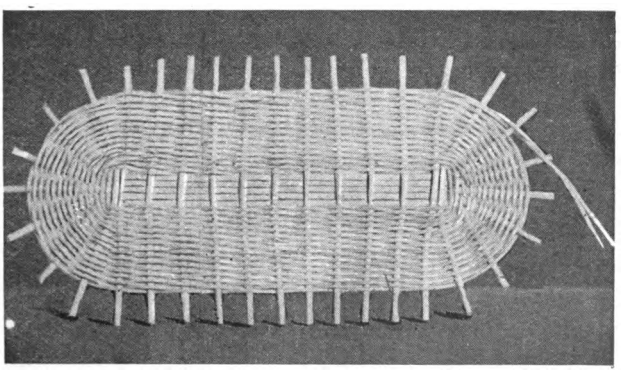

FIG. 7.—OBLONG OVAL BASE FINISHED.

into 2—1—2 (Fig. 7). Pair round these, but still weave down the side. When both ends have been divided in this way, take each spoke singly, beginning with the double side spokes, and pair round each of the nine spokes at either end, but still only weave down the sides.

When both ends are done, continue weaving straight round with first one weaver and then the other, but not pairing.

While doing the base, draw the weaver firmly towards the right, and when doing the ends bring the weaver firmly down between the spokes, which must be drawn as far apart as possible to admit of this being done efficiently. In a well-made base the weaving is always drawn down so firmly that the spokes cannot be seen in between.

To get the oval bases of the size required, first take the measurement across the basket. If this is 4½ inches, and the length is to be 8 inches, the spokes across would have to be placed within a distance of 6 inches, measuring from each lot of double spokes at the end.

The reason of this is, that enough space must be left at either end to allow 2 inches of weaving, as in a base 4½ inches across there would be 2 inches of weaving on either side, allowing ½ inch for the five spokes down the centre.

If this rule is followed, the right size can always be counted on, and in the lids of oval baskets it is particularly necessary that the size should be assured before starting.

CHAPTER II.

GENERAL REMARKS ON BASES.

Round Base.

Spokes cut 6 inches long would make a base 5 inches in diameter.

Should a smaller size be needed, eight spokes —four crossing four—would be sufficient.

The number of spokes, when using No. 6 cane, can be increased to fifteen—seven across seven and one odd one; but for a base of 9 or 10 inches in diameter No. 13 cane should be used, as in the "Comeragh Waste Paper Basket" (page 63).

When one upright spoke for the side of the basket is placed on either side of each spoke in the base, the distance between each spoke should not be too great.

In small fancy baskets, when the canes used for spokes are No. 3, it is not necessary to split them, but only to cross the two lots together in the centre (as in Book I., page 29). All bases need very firm weaving to ensure their being flat and of a good shape.

Oval Base.

When a broad oval is required, fewer spokes must be used across, and extra spokes added at either end to prevent the spokes from being too far apart. For a base measuring 6 inches across four extra spokes must be added at each end.

If this base is loosely worked it will twist up at one end, so it is necessary to work it firmly and to see that there is no space left between each row of weaving.

In order to make both round and oval bases firm and neat, it is necessary to start weaving with a finer cane, afterwards changing the weaver to one that is two sizes thicker. The weaver, of course, must suit the thickness of the spokes used. For instance, if you use Nos. 7, 8, and 9 for spokes, you must start to weave with No. 2; but if you use Nos. 4, 5, and 6, then you must start to weave with No. 0.

CHAPTER III.

REMARKS ON BORDERS.

Madeira Border I.

Allow 4 inches for this border.

It is a very simple border, and suitable for Violet baskets and small sweet-baskets of various kinds.

To make it, the spokes should all be double, as it has a much prettier effect when they are so. It is not necessary, however, to have the spokes double throughout the basket, which may be worked in the ordinary way with single spokes, allowing the 4 inches for the border, and then, when the weaving is finished, inserting beside each spoke an extra one of 6 inches, the extra length being pushed into the basket.

Treat all the double spokes as one, and now take one lot of double spokes behind the next lot, in front of the next, and leave the ends on the outside of the basket.

Repeat this round, drawing all the spokes closely down except the first, which must be left a little

loose, as the last spokes are threaded through to complete the border.

When the last two lots of double spokes are reached, proceed in the same way—behind one, in front of one—only, the first spoke, after being taken behind one, is threaded over the next spoke which is turned down, and the last is inserted first behind and then in front of the next two spokes already turned down.

To finish, the ends are all cut off neatly, the further side of the spoke against which they rest.

Method of Working Madeira Borders.

As explained in "Madeira Border IV." (see page 24) it is necessary with the "Oblong Madeira Basket" (page 75) to keep all the spokes standing as straight as possible to the top of the border.

This is done because the border is like a continuation of the side of the basket, and must go up in an even line.

In other baskets—for instance, the fruit basket—the border sets out in flutes: therefore it is made to spread out as much as possible. To do this keep all the spokes in a slanting direction from left to right.

A border of this description is worked on the inside of the basket, and worked from left to right.

When doing the plait on the outside, the basket is turned upside down, and held by the brim. For working a Madeira edge to the foot of a basket, hold the basket upside down and work on the outside.

Madeira Border II.

(Figs. 8 and 9.)

Materials required.—Allow spokes of 8 inches for this border, and use double spokes of No. 2 cane, or triple ones of No. 0 or 1 cane.

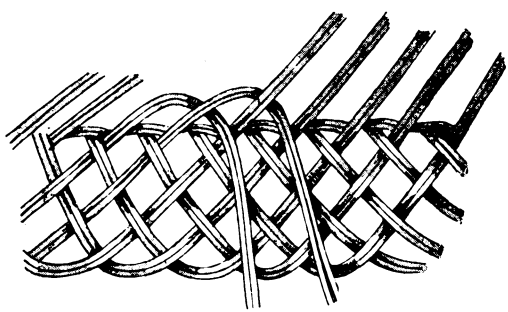

FIG. 8.—MADEIRA BORDER II.

For the sake of brevity, although many spokes may be used, they will in the descriptions be treated as one. (NOTE.—You must never draw the first spokes down close to begin with: they must be left open, so that when you come to the finish you have room for inserting the last spokes.)

Take one spoke behind one, in front of one, behind one, in front of one, and leave the end on the outside of the basket (Fig. 8).

Repeat this round, threading the last spokes through the spokes already turned down, on the same principle as for the preceding border; only in this there will be more to thread through. Do

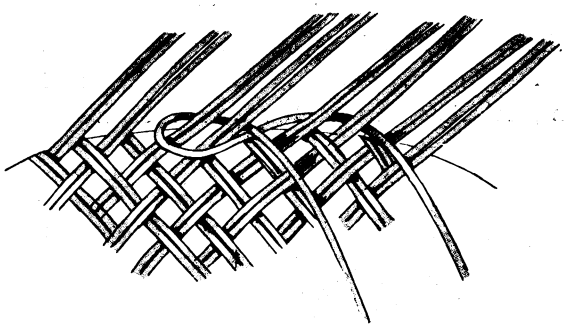

FIG. 9.—MADEIRA BORDER II.—PAIRING FOR PLAIT.

not draw the spokes down too closely, as the border should be about 1 inch in depth.

When this first part is done, turn the basket upside down to do the plait round the edge. Take one spoke in a close curve behind the next and bring the end down against the border (Fig. 9.)

It is necessary to keep this plait very close to the basket, so as each spoke is brought round the

next it should be held firmly in its place by the left hand, and the hold should be shifted round as each spoke is used. Finish by threading the last spoke through the loop of the first.

Now go round again, curving one spoke beneath the next in the same way, only now the spokes curve round to make the other side of plait. When the last spoke has been threaded through the loop of the first, the plait is finished, and the ends must be cut off neatly. Care should be taken in doing this that the ends of the spokes are left long enough to go over the next spoke.

Madeira Border III.

Materials required.—Allow 8 inches for this border, and use 3 spokes of No. 1 or 0 cane together. Depth of border without plait, 1½ inches.

Take one spoke behind two, in front of two, behind two, in front of one, leaving the end outside the basket. Repeat this round until only seven upright spokes remain.

The first of these, after going behind and in front of the next six in the usual way, will be the first to be taken behind the first spoke turned down, the others following in their course.

Do the plait in the same way as for "Madeira Border II."

Madeira Border IV.

Materials required.—Allow spokes of 14 inches, and use No. 0 cane. Use 3 spokes together. Depth of border without plait, 3 inches.

This is a very light and graceful border, used principally on the "Oblong Madeira Basket" (page 75), where it occupies quite half the depth. In this basket the border must not spread out, therefore it is necessary to keep the spokes straight to the top, and then to bend them to interlace with the other spokes.

Great care is needed to keep a nice straight edge round the top of the border. If uneven, the effect of the basket is quite spoilt.

Take one spoke behind three spokes, in front of two, behind two, in front of two and behind one, leaving the end outside for the plait.

Repeat this round, measuring occasionally to keep the border of the correct depth.

Finish off with the plait as described for the preceding borders. This border is worked on the outside of the basket.

Madeira Border V.

Materials required.—Spokes of 16 inches.

No. 2 cane.

Use two spokes together.

Take one spoke behind three spokes, in front of three, behind three, in front of two, behind one, in front of one, leaving the end outside.

If the edge of the border, behind three and in front of three; if kept close together it has the effect of a double ridge or twist.

Finish off on the same principle as for the preceding borders, and plait the ends.

This border is worked on the inside.

Cycle Border.

Materials required.—Spokes of 6 inches.

This border is called the "Cycle," as it is used on the cycle baskets; but it is very useful on many other kinds, principally those which have lids, as it is flat outside and the ends are all cut off neatly inside.

Take one spoke in front of two spokes, behind one, in front of two, and push the end well down inside.

This is finished on the same principle as the "Madeira Borders," the last spokes being threaded through the turned-down spokes in their order. Thus, when only five upright spokes are left, the first of these will be taken in front of two, behind one, and then, to pass in front of two again, it will be taken in front of the last upright spoke and the first one turned down, and through the loop of this

it must be threaded to the inside ; all the other spokes will then be threaded through in their places.

In starting this border, the first spoke must not be drawn close down to the weaving, but room should be left for the end spokes to be threaded through. After the first two spokes have been used, draw the border down as firmly as possible, as the closer the spokes come together the handsomer the border will look when finished.

When a pupil is efficient in this border 6 inches for spokes will be sufficient.

Flat Plait Border.

(Figs. 10 to 13.)

Materials required.—Cane No. 6 or 7.

Allow spokes 13 inches long, but they must not be more than ½ inch apart.

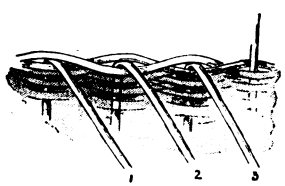

FIG. 10.—COMMENCING FLAT PLAIT BORDER.

Turn down three spokes sharply to the outside of the basket (Fig. 10). Hold the second and third in the left hand, and with the right hand bring No. 1 spoke in a curve over the other two, and place it

between the first two upright spokes; bring down the first upright spoke beside it. Repeat this with the second and third spokes; then there will be three spokes inside and two spokes outside Take the first from inside, and bring it down beside the third spoke outside (Fig. 11). Be careful in doing this not to draw the spoke too tightly from the outside.

Now proceed to plait as follows: Take the first spoke from outside, place between the next two

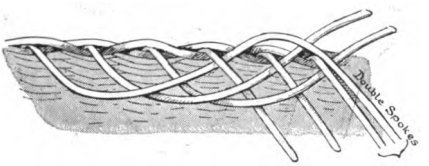

FIG. 11.—FLAT PLAIT BORDER—SECOND POSITION OF SPOKES.

upright spokes, bring the first spoke from inside between the same upright spokes to outside, then draw the first upright spoke down beside it.

When the double spokes are reached they must be used together as one spoke both inside and outside the basket; and when the triple spokes are reached the two longer ones must be used together as one, leaving the short spoke to be cut off afterwards. When the last upright spoke has been turned down there will be two lots of double spokes inside and three lots of triple spokes outside.

Take three twos out of the three threes, and pass them under the three that were first turned down.

This brings five lots of double spokes to the inside of the basket. Take the first two lots and thread through the place marked × in Fig. 12. Take the longer one of these, and, first threading it just through the first single spoke, that it may lie

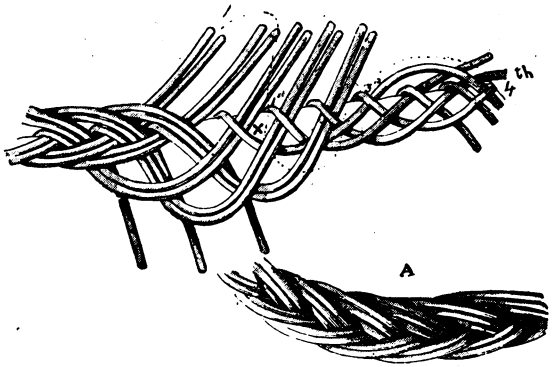

FIG. 12.—FLAT PLAIT BORDER IN PROGRESS, WITH (A) PORTION OF FINISHED BORDER.

flat beside that, follow the course of the first single spoke under the black spoke to where it passes through to the outside of the basket, thus making it double like the others.

There are four other double spokes, and these must all be treated in the same way as the first double spoke.

In finishing this border the principle is to make all the single spokes used in starting double to

agree with the rest of the border. To do this the longer one of each of the double spokes inside the basket is used to follow out their course.

Take the first double spokes from the inside and thread through the place marked × in Fig. 12. Now take the longer of these and thread one up

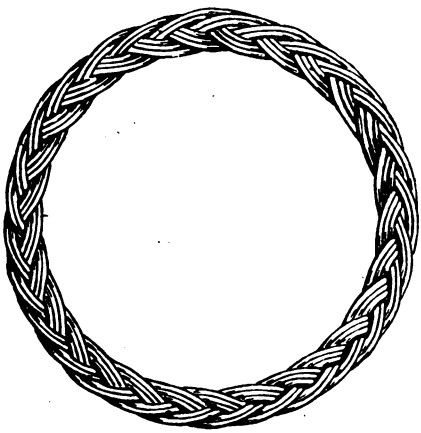

FIG. 13.—FLAT PLAIT BORDER FINISHED.

through the single spoke, so that it may lie flat beside that; then follow its course under single spoke No. 3 and then to the outside.

The other four double spokes must be used in the same way to finish the border (which is shown complete in Fig. 13).

CHAPTER IV.

USEFUL BASKETS.

Scotch Knitter.

Materials required.—Canes Nos. 5, 2, 0, and 13.

12 spokes of No. 5 cane—32 inches.

1 strand of No. 0.

Cane No. 2 for weaving.

Coloured round or flat cane.

Handle No. 13 cane.

This basket is barrel-shaped.

Take six of the twelve spokes and pierce each in the centre with a penknife, each split being about ½ inch long. Thread these on to the other six and place together in the centre (Fig. 2, page 10). Now take a strand of No. 0 cane, double it, leaving one end about ½ yard longer than the other, that the joins may not all come about the same place; place the looped end over six of the spokes (those that have been split), bring the weavers from underneath to the front, and pass the one on the top to the back of the next lot of six spokes (otherwise doing three rounds of pairing). Repeat this, drawing the weavers as close

as possible, until the weaver crosses the spokes three times; then divide the six spokes into two all the way round and pair round. The next time take each spoke singly and pair round once; after that weave round with No. 2 cane until the base is 4 inches across. Damp the base (just dip it in a basin of water), and then turn the spokes up sharply, making the side of the base you have been working on the outside of the basket.

Now add another weaver to the two you have been using, and do three rows of triple twist, keeping the spokes standing up sharply. Then bring the spokes out and do sixteen rows of plain weaving, two rows of triple twist, six rows of alternate flat and round cane (bend the spokes in after the second row of flat cane), two rows of triple twist, and fourteen rows of plain weaving; cut the weavers short, and push the ends to the inside of the basket.

BORDER.—Damp the spokes to make them more pliable. Take No. 1 spoke behind the next (No. 2), and draw down in front; take No. 2 behind No. 3, and draw down in front; and No. 3 behind No. 4 in the same way.

Now take No. 1 spoke from the front over the other spokes, and place behind No. 5 spoke; then bring No. 4 spoke down beside it; draw both down as closely as possible to the weaving. The first, second, and third are left a little loose to allow

the last spokes to be threaded through them in finishing the border.

Now take the next spoke from the outside and place between the next two upright spokes, taking it behind the second one, and then drawing the first upright down beside it. Repeat this round the basket, always taking the longer spoke when you come to the double ones, and leaving the shorter one standing out. When the last upright spoke is reached, bring the next spoke from the outside across the others as before, and thread through No. 1 spoke from behind to the front; then thread the last upright spoke through beside it. Now take the next long spoke from the outside, thread it through No. 1 to the inside, pass behind the next spoke, and bring it to the front immediately above the weaving. The next spoke from the outside must be threaded to the inside through No. 2 spoke, and brought to the front from behind No. 3. The last spoke from the outside must be threaded through No. 3, and brought to the front from behind No. 4. In threading these spokes through always take them to the inside just underneath the top curved spoke, but thread them to the outside just above the weaving.

Now it only remains to insert all the short spokes to the inside. Take one spoke past two spokes, and insert to the inside just before the next spoke. When all are inserted, and you have arranged them in a slanting position, cut the ends off neatly inside.

HANDLE.—Take two pieces of handle cane, 28 inches long. Sharpen each end. Insert them in the basket just above the last two rows of triple twist and push down to the bottom. Leave three spokes between each handle at the sides and seven spokes on the wider side. Now take a strand of No. 2 cane, thread it round the handle and the spoke beside it just below the last row of triple twist. Bring both ends to an equal length outside, and then, taking the two together, twist them round the handle to the other side; thread them to the inside of the basket, one on either side of the handle, weave them across the three spokes between, thread them to the outside on either side of the other handle, twist them round it, and finish by taking them inside; cross one over the other inside, and then weave first one and then the other a little way round the basket to keep them in their place.

You should try to keep this basket of a nice barrel shape, the opening at the top being only 2 inches wider than the base.

Blackberry Basket

Materials required.—Nos. 4 and 5 cane for spokes.
12 spokes of No. 5 cane—6 inches.
24 spokes of ditto—14 inches.
12 spokes of No. 4 cane—13 inches—for the lid.
22 inches of No. 16 cane, for the handle.

Weave with Nos. 1 and 2 flat green and No. 2 round green.

This basket is almost cylindrical.

Make a round base measuring 4½ inches across. Insert the twenty-four spokes of 14 inches, turn them up sharply, and do three rows of triple twist with either coloured or natural coloured cane, eighteen rows of plain weaving (with the natural coloured cane), and three rows of flat coloured cane.

Up to this point the basket should have been very gradually enlarged and it should now measure 7 inches across. In doing this do not let the sides of the basket curve out, but keep it on a straight slant; now bend all the spokes inward one by one.

Now do two rows of triple twist with No. 2 coloured cane; then bend all the spokes inward again.

Do eight rows of weaving, gradually drawing the spokes nearer together, and finish with "Closed Border II.," as described and illustrated on pages 41-3 of Book I.

The top of the basket when finished should measure 5 inches across.

The handle cane should be pointed at the ends, and inserted into the basket just above the flat cane; it is then bound round with two strands of No. 1 cane.

LID.—Start a round base in the ordinary way, with the twelve spokes of No. 4 cane, 13 inches long. When this measures $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches cross, cut off one weaver and do two rows of flat green in its place.

Then continue with round cane until the lid is $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches across; finish round with the border behind one, in front of one, and leave inside. When it is cut off neatly, place the lid on the basket, seeing that the spokes cross in the same way as the base.

Now connect the lid to the handle of the basket with a small loop of cane, which can afterwards be covered with bass. On the other side put the fastening.

Small Holly Basket.

(Fig. 14.)

Materials required.—14 spokes of No. 6 cane—7 inches.

1 spoke of ditto—4 inches.

29 spokes of ditto—10 inches.

16 spokes of ditto—19 inches—and 1 spoke of ditto—10 inches—for the lid.

2 pieces of No. 13 cane—11 inches—for the handles.

Weavers Nos. 0-2.

Flat green and red enamel cane.

Make a round base in the ordinary way, seven crossing seven, and one odd one; weave until 6 inches across.

Insert the twenty-nine spokes of 10 inches, and then do three rows triple twist No. 2 cane; two rows right round of flat green; one row red enamel; two rows right round flat green; three rows double weaving No. 2 cane; two rows right round flat green; one row right round red enamel; two rows right round flat green; two rows triple twist No. 2 cane.

The sides of the basket must flow about 1½ inches.

Border.—Take one spoke in front of two spokes, and behind one spoke.

With the two pieces of No. 13 cane make a small handle on either side.

To get the correct position, go by the spokes crossing the bases in the centre.

Trace out the second and sixth and place the ends of the handle cane down beside; this will leave three spokes in between.

Place a piece of red enamel cane over the handle, and keep it in its place by binding round with a piece of No. 2 weaving cane, as in knitting baskets. Repeat this on the opposite side.

Lid.—Begin in the same way as for the base, but with eight spokes crossing eight spokes. Weave until 3 inches across.

Bend the spokes down slightly and do two rows of green flat right round; one row of red enamel right round; two rows of green flat; three rows of double weaving; two rows of flat green right round; one row of red enamel right round; two rows of flat green right round.

FIG. 14.—SMALL HOLLY BASKET.

Do as many rows of triple twist as are necessary to make the lid of the right dimensions, as the size of the lid must be in accordance with the size of basket.

The top of this basket should be 7½ inches across, and for this two rows of triple twist will be enough before the border; but should the basket be a little larger, a few more rows of triple twist must be put in.

The border for the lid is the same as for the top of the basket.

For the ring at the top of lid, take a short piece of No. 2 cane, thread it under the eight spokes, twist the two ends over each other several times, then thread the ends under the eight spokes, and cut them off neatly on the further side.

Place the lid on evenly; the spokes on the lid must cross evenly from handle to handle. Sew it on with bass in two places at the back, leaving about 2 inches between the two hinges.

In front, just in the centre and directly under the border of the basket, form a loop by threading some weaving cane round a few rows of weaving; take the ends inside the basket, cross them, and weave each end a short way round the basket. Bind the loop with bass. Make another loop to catch over the first loop; this also should be bound with bass, and a short piece of No. 13 cane tied to the side of the basket, to slip through the loop, will fasten it securely.

Small Rubbish Basket, on Small Base.

Materials required.—35 spokes of No. 6 cane—27 inches.

Base.

Weave with No. 2 green rush.

Foot.—Six rows of plain weaving, border in front of one, behind one.

Top.—Three rows of triple twist, twelve rows of

plain weaving; five rounds of rush, twelve rows of plain weaving; five rounds of rush, fourteen rows of plain weaving.

End with plaited border.

Cost price 1s. 3½d. Sale price 2s. 8d.

Large Palm-Pot Cover.

(Figs. 15 to 18.)

Materials required.—A round wooden base with forty-five holes.

Cut ninety spokes of No. 5 cane, 28 inches long. Place two together in each hole in the round base, leaving 4½ inches below the base for the foot.

Weave with No. 2 and 50 flat.

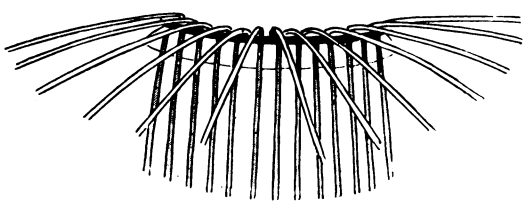

FIG. 15.—STARTING FOOT OF PALM-POT COVER.

Before weaving the foot spread all the spokes outwards (Fig. 15), as the basket stands much firmer if the foot slants outwards. Do six rounds of plain weaving with No. 2 cane, pressing the spokes down with the left hand, and weaving with

the right. For the border take one spoke (the two canes together are counted as one) in front of two spokes, then place inside.

When this is finished, turn the basket upright and press the top spokes well out (Fig. 16).

Work three rows of triple twist.

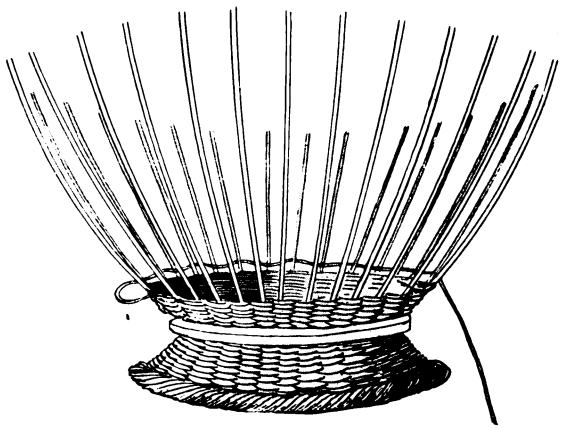

FIG. 16.—METHOD OF WEAVING PALM-POT COVER.

Work nineteen rows of plain weaving, and one row of triple twist (No. 5 cane).

Work three rows of No. 50 flat.

Press all the spokes in, and do four more rows of No. 50 flat, weaving rather tightly, that the spokes may be drawn nearer together.

Now do one row of triple twist with No. 5 cane; also sixteen rows of plain weaving.

The top of the basket should now measure about 10 inches across.

Bend the spokes out sharply (Fig. 17) and do six rows of plain weaving. Finish with border.

Take one spoke (using two spokes as one) in front of one, behind one, in front of one, and push to outside. Repeat this round.

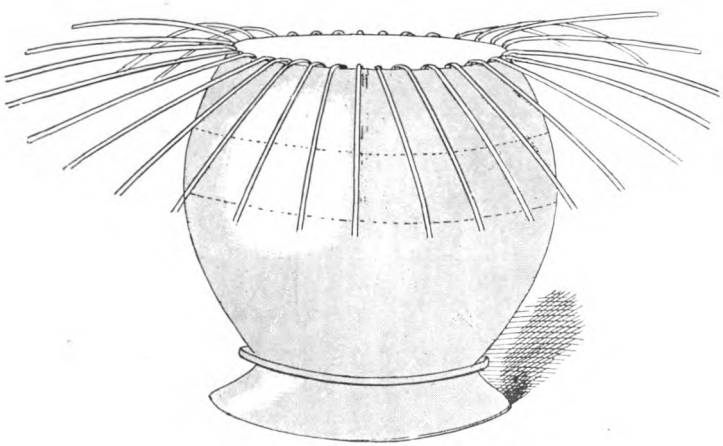

FIG. 17.—STARTING BORDER OF PALM-POT COVER.

Turn the basket upside down, and do the half plait—this is done by taking one spoke behind the next—and repeat round; then cut off the ends neatly. The basket is now finished (Fig. 18).

A piece of No. 5 cane twisted into a ring and placed at either side of the basket is an improvement.

FIG. 18.—PALM-POT COVER FINISHED.

Large Fluted Flower Basket.

(Figs. 19 to 21.)

Materials required.—14 pieces of No. 8 cane—6 inches.

56 spokes of No. 2 green cane—21 inches.

56 spokes of ditto—19 inches.

32 spokes of ditto—16 inches.

112 spokes of ditto—15 inches.

2 pieces of No. 16 cane—48 inches.

With the fourteen pieces of No. 8 cane make an ordinary round base with an even number of spokes measuring 5 inches across.

Cut off the ends of the spokes and insert the fifty-six spokes of No. 2 green cane—21 inches, placing one spoke on either side of the one spoke in base. Turn the spokes upright. Now do three rows of triple twist with No. 2 white cane. Then twenty-nine rows of plain weaving.

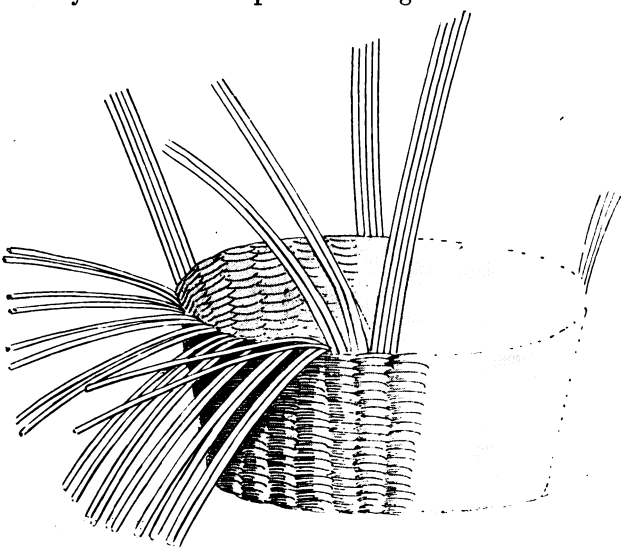

FIG. 19.—SECTION OF FLUTED FLOWER BASKET—TURNING-DOWN SPOKES

Now insert the fifty-six spokes of 19 inches, placing two beside each two, and pushing them right down to the base of the basket (Fig. 19). Pair round once, dividing all the spokes into twos, excepting four lots of four spokes, which remain undivided.

These four spokes are at equal distances round the basket. Take the centre spoke of each group of seven in the base, and you will get the right spokes at the side.

Between each of these lots of four spokes there will be twelve double spokes. The four spokes must be left upright, but the twelve must be bent down

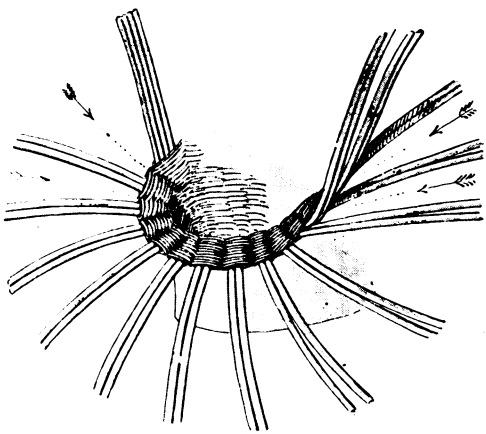

FIG. 20.—FLUTED FLOWER BASKET—CURVE PARTLY WORKED.

to the outside of the basket to form the curve, pressing them down most sharply in the centre of each twelve (Fig. 20). When this has been done do nine rows of plain weaving.

BORDER. — Insert the thirty-two spokes of 16 inches, placing two beside the two next lots of two spokes on either side of the four undivided

spokes, so that each curve has four lots of double spokes added to it.

Pair round once to divide into twos, still keeping the central side spokes undivided. Do eight rows of weaving. Insert the one hundred and twelve spokes of green cane, placing two beside each two round the basket. Pair round once, dividing all the spokes into two, in readiness for the border, the depth of which is 3½ inches. (All the pairs of spokes are used together as one, and for the sake of brevity will be spoken of as one.) Take one spoke in front of three spokes, behind two, in front of two, behind one, in front of one, and leave behind. Repeat this round. This border is worked on the top of the basket, the spokes being curved from left to right.

Now turn the basket upside down and pair round once, taking two lots of double spokes together each time, and keeping the row of pairing even with the edge of the weaving.

When this is done plait round as described for "Madeira Borders" (Chapter III.), using four spokes together to plait with.

HANDLE.—Sharpen the ends of the two pieces of No. 16 cane and push two ends down beside one lot of four spokes on the inside of the basket. Twist the two pieces of cane round each other, and push the ends into the basket at the opposite side.

Take two pieces of No. 2 cane, thread both ends from inside round the handle cane just below the border, draw the four ends to equal lengths

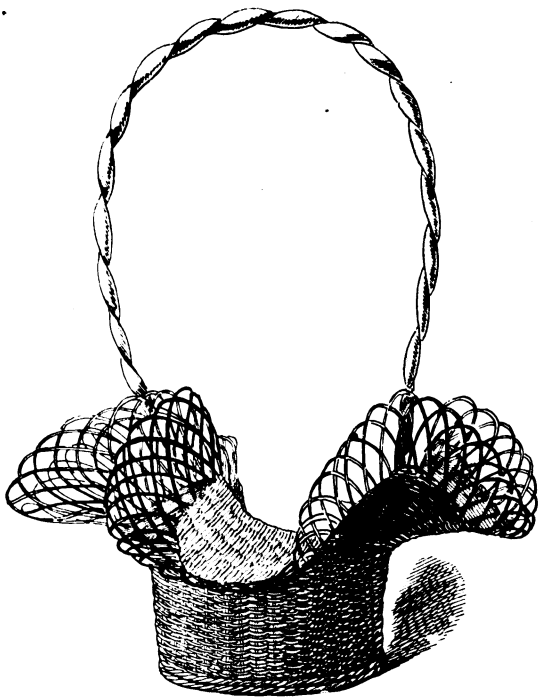

FIG. 21.—FLUTED FLOWER BASKET COMPLETE.

and twist round the handle to the opposite side; thread through to the outside two pieces on either side of the handle cane, cross these, and weave a short way round the basket (Fig. 21).

Square Work Basket with Wooden Base.

(Figs. 22 to 25.)

Materials required.—A square wooden base—7½ inches across.

44 spokes of No. 6 cane—13 inches.

19 spokes of ditto—16 inches.

4 spokes of No. 13 cane—4 inches.

2 pieces of ditto—12 inches.

1 piece of ditto—7 inches.

29 spokes—16 inches, for the lid.

Insert the forty-four spokes through the holes in the wooden base, leaving 2½ inches below.

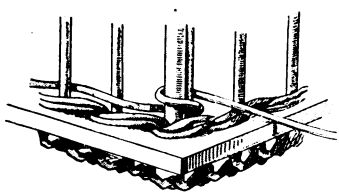

FIG. 22.—STARTING SQUARE WORK BASKET—TURNING WEAVER ROUND CORNER SPOKES.

Do the border in front of one, behind one, in front of one, leaving end inside. All this must be worked underneath the wooden base. In doing this, start the border when about six spokes have been inserted, and then continue to work round, putting in a few spokes at a time. Turn the base up, and place the long spokes into position.

Do three rows of triple twist, and then place a piece of No. 13 cane (4 inches), in each corner, beside the corner spoke. The two must be used together as one. Do four rows of single weaving.

When the round weaver goes behind the double corner spokes it must be taken round them again; but when the weaver comes on the outside, this is not necessary (Figs. 22 and 23).

FIG. 23.—SQUARE WORK BASKET WITH WOODEN BASE.

Do one row of flat coloured cane. (This cannot be twisted round corners.) Do two rows of plain weaving; one row of triple twist; six rows of flat coloured cane; one row of triple twist; two rows of plain weaving; one row of flat coloured; and four rows of single weaving.

BORDER.—"Cycle" Border. In front of two spokes, behind one, in front of one, leaving end inside.

With the ends do the plait in the same way as explained for "Madeira Borders" (Chapter III.).

To make this basket of a good shape it is necessary to keep an equal distance between each spoke; the corner spokes should be pulled outwards, while those on either side are pushed in.

The piece of No. 13 cane at each corner must be cut evenly with the weaving before the border is done.

The two pieces of No. 13 cane (12 inches) can now be inserted for handles.

Sharpen the ends and push them into the basket beside the fourth spokes (counting from either end) and at the second row of triple twist. Take a piece of No. 2 cane, thread round the handle cane just below the triple twist, place a piece of flat coloured cane over the top of the handle, and then twist the ends of the No. 2 cane round it, with spaces of about ½ inch between each twist. To finish, thread the ends through to the inside, cross them, and weave a few inches on either side.

LID.—29 spokes—16 inches.

If correctly worked this basket should measure 8 inches across; the lid, therefore, will be 7½ inches, as it fits inside the basket, resting on the plaited border there (it is not shown in Fig. 23).

Allowing ½ inch on either side for the border round it, this brings the measurement of the centre square of lid to 6½ inches.

Take two spokes of 16 inches and place flat on the table together; fold a strand of No. 2

cane and put the loop over the spokes 4½ inches from the nearest ends (Fig. 24).

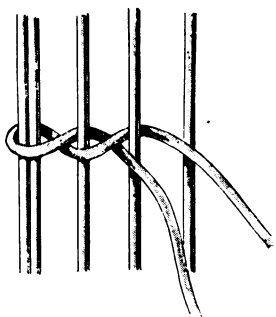

FIG. 24.—STARTING LID OF SQUARE BASKET.

Place another spoke flat on the table about ½ inch further on and pair round. Continue to place the spokes and pair them, keeping them in

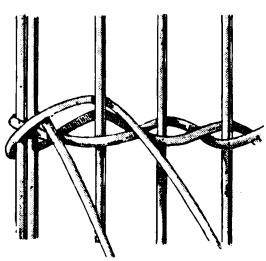

FIG. 25.—SQUARE BASKET—TURNING WEAVER ROUND LAST SPOKES.

their places with the left hand, until a piece is done measuring 6½ inches (fifteen spokes), the last spokes being double (Fig. 25).

Turn this over from right to left, so that when flat on the table the weaving will continue from the left-hand side, and the shorter end of the spokes will still point towards the work.

Take the two weavers round the double spokes at the end, one going under and the other over, and then do another row of pairing, keeping it in a straight line. When the other end is reached turn it over as before, and, leaving one weaver out (leave an end of about 1 inch), bring the other back, and weave across the spokes; turn it over and weave back again. Every second row of weaving must be taken twice round the double spokes at the ends.

When two outside rows of plain weaving have been done (counting in the ordinary way the number of times one weaver crosses the same spoke), the first side spoke must be woven in.

Take a spoke of 16 inches and, leaving an end of 4½ inches, weave down in place of the weaver; then take the weaver over or under the spoke and weave down the side.

Do two rows of single weaving with one piece of flat cane, leaving about ½ inch over at either end. Insert one spoke by weaving it in in the ordinary way, *; four rows of weaving, one spoke; repeat *; one piece flat green; two rows weaving; one spoke; four plain weaving; one spoke; four weaving, one spoke; two weaving, one flat; two

weaving, one spoke; four weaving, one spoke; four weaving, one spoke; two weaving, one flat, one spoke; four weaving, one spoke, one flat; two weaving, one spoke; two weaving, two pairing.

Now weave in a spoke at either side next to the pairing, then do two rows of pairing round the lid, catching in the ends of the flat cane with the spokes to which they are nearest, and dividing the double spokes at each corner. This pairing must be kept as close as possible to the weaving, or the lid will have a very untidy appearance.

Border.—In front of two, behind one, in front of one.

Handle (on top).—One piece of No. 13 cane—7 inches.

Get the centre of the lid, and with a piece of wire secure one end of the cane against the third and fourth spokes, counting from the side.

Bend the cane in a half-circle, and secure the other end in the same manner on the opposite side. Place a piece of coloured cane over the top of it, and twist a strand of No. 2 cane round it in the same way as the side handles; sew the lid on with bass at the back, and in front affix a small fastener and loop as described for the "Small Holly Basket" on page 38 and illustrated in Fig. 14.

Square Basket with Cane Base.

(Figs. 26 and 27.)

Materials required.—Canes Nos. 13, 16, 8, 4, and 7; a wooden cramp, price 4s. 6d.

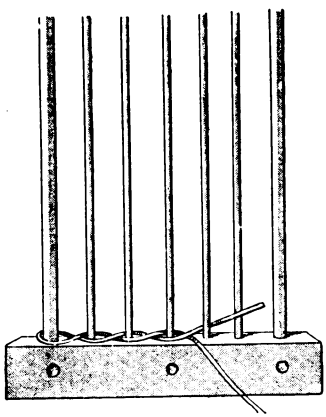

FIG. 26.—COMMENCING SQUARE CANE BASE.

To make any square basket, the wooden cramp (Fig. 26) is necessary. This cramp divides in the middle (where the spokes are shown in Fig. 26) by turning the three screws.

When the cramp is open, place the seven spokes (which have been cut 8 inches long) $\frac{3}{4}$ inch apart in the opening, beginning with No. 16 and ending with No. 16 (No. 8 in between). Now screw up tightly, and proceed to weave with No. 4, as in

Fig. 26, the first row being pairing (Fig. 19, Book I.). Only the first row and the last are pairing; the rest is woven backwards and forwards with one weaver (Fig. 27), until the base is of the desired size.

Now unscrew the cramp, and take out the base. Trim off what remains of the thick spokes on either

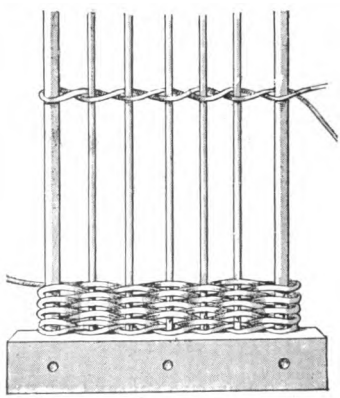

FIG. 27.—DETAILS OF SQUARE BASE—TO BE CONTINUED UNTIL OF THE DESIRED SIZE.

end, and secure the end of the weaver by slipping it through a bar of weaving.

Now cut the spokes for the sides, No. 7, 13 inches long. Take a very sharp-pointed piercer, and insert the spokes into all four sides of the base at the proper distance apart—*i.e.*, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

Special attention is drawn to the manner in which the weaver is taken round the corners (see

Fig. 22, page 47). Continue weaving until of the desired depth, leaving 6 inches for the border.

Prepare four pieces of cane (No. 16) 4 inches long, and with a sharp penknife cut a small piece out on one side of the cane about ½ inch up on all four pieces, to allow of the corner pieces fitting a little more closely to the four corners of the base. Secure these in turn as the triple twist proceeds round the foot of the base.

Either "Closed Border No. III." (Book I., page 44) or "Cycle Border" (page 25) is in keeping with this basket.

The lid is described under "Square Work Basket with Wooden Base" (page 47).

The handles are put in in the usual way.

Apple Basket.

(Fig. 28.)

Materials required.—12 spokes of No. 13 cane —9 inches.

48 spokes of No. 7 cane—29 inches.

2 pieces of No. 16 cane—30 inches.

Weave with Nos. 1 and 2 cane.

With the twelve spokes of No. 13 cane proceed to make an ordinary round base, weaving with No. 2 cane until it measures about 5 inches across; then weave with No. 3 until it is 8 inches across.

Cut off the ends of the spokes, and insert the forty-eight spokes of 29 inches, placing one on either side of the spokes in base. Turn up sharply, and do three rows of triple twist, taking each spoke singly, and weaving with No. 3 cane.

Do seven rows of plain weaving; three rows of No. 40 flat and round alternately; seven rows of plain weaving; three rows of No. 40 flat and round alternately; and seven rows of plain weaving.

FIG. 28.—APPLE BASKET.

BORDER.—"Flat Plait" (page 26).

The spokes should slant outwards from the base, and the top (before the border is done) should measure quite 13 inches across.

HANDLE.—The two pieces of No. 16 cane must be inserted on either side of the centre side spoke, and carried over to the opposite side, lying flat together. Bind round with flat cane as described for the "Key Basket" (page 66).

Oblong Game Basket.

(Fig. 29.)

Materials required.—5 spokes of No. 8 cane—18 inches.

19 spokes of ditto—7 inches.

50 spokes of ditto—18½ inches.

Weave with Nos. 1, 3, and 40 flat.

Make an ordinary base, nineteen spokes across five, measuring 16 by 6 inches. Use No. 2 cane.

FIG. 29.—OBLONG GAME BASKET.

Insert the fifty side spokes, putting one on either side of the five long spokes at each end.

Turn up and do three rows of twist No. 3 cane; thirteen rows of plain weaving; eight rows of flat cane (coloured) and round cane alternately; twelve rows of plain weaving; one row of pairing.

BORDER.—"Loop," 2 inches high (p. 35, Book I.).

HANDLE.—Length of handle according to taste. Put on in the same way as described for the "Key Basket" (page 67).

Shallow Oval Garden Basket.

(Figs. 30 to 35.)

Materials required.—Osiers the thickness of a slate pencil.

5 osier spokes of 19 inches.

13 osier spokes of 13 inches.

14 osier spokes of 4½ inches.

94 spokes of No. 7 cane—19 inches.

3 pieces of No. 16 cane—30 inches.

Weave with Nos. 3, 4, 6, 16 and 40 flat cane.

FIG. 30.—SHALLOW OVAL GARDEN BASKET.

Split the thirteen pieces of osier in the centre, and thread on to the five of 19 inches. Weave like an ordinary oval base until twenty rows of weaving with No. 3 cane have been done.

Add the fourteen spokes, seven at either end, placing one beside each of the five long spokes and the first of the double side spokes.

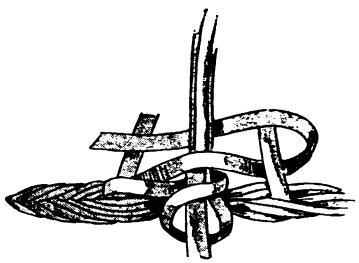

Fig. 31.—Inside View.

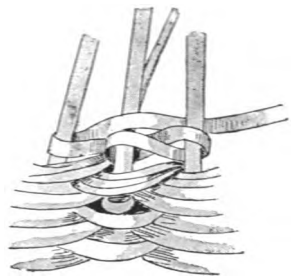

Fig. 32.—Outside View.

STARTING HANDLE OF GARDEN BASKET.

Now do two rows of triple twist to divide the spokes with No. 4 cane, and continue weaving until the base measures 18 by 12 inches.

Cut off the ends of the spokes, and insert the ninety-four spokes of No. 7 cane, one on either side of each spoke, except the centre one at each side. Turn up sharply and do two rows of triple twist, taking each spoke singly. Do seven rows of single weaving; three rows (straight round) of flat cane; and six rows of weaving.

BORDER.—"Flat Plait" (page 26).

HANDLE.—Place one piece of No. 16 cane down beside the centre side spoke and one piece beside the first spoke on either side; repeat on the opposite side. Thread a piece of No. 40 flat round

the centre handle cane from the inside just below the border.

Leave one end several inches long, and with the other weave to and fro between the three canes until eighteen rows cross the centre one (Figs. 31

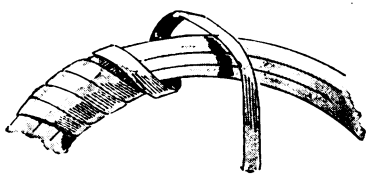

FIG. 33.—BINDING HANDLE OF GARDEN BASKET.

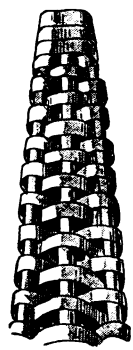

FIG. 34.—FINISHING

and 32). In doing this the short end must be caught in beside one of the handle canes.

Now continue to bind over the top of the handle (Fig. 33), taking all three canes together until within

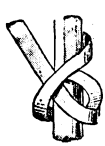

FIG. 35.—FINISHING OFF THE FLAT CANE IN BINDING A HANDLE.

6 inches of the border, when the weaving is continued (as in Fig. 34).

When the border is reached, the end of the flat cane must be threaded round the centre handle cane just beneath it, and the end pushed up against one of the canes and then cut off (Fig. 35).

Fig. 40 shows how the handle ought to look when finished.

District Basket on Wooden Ring.

Materials required.—31 spokes of No. 4 cane—14 inches.

12 spokes of ditto—13 inches.

A wooden ring.

Weave with No. 1 cane, white and coloured No. 40 flat; one strand No. 6 cane.

Insert the thirty-one spokes round the ring, leaving 2½ inches below. Plait these into the border, behind one, in front of one, leaving the end inside.

Commence the top part by doing three rows of triple twist, coloured cane; fourteen rows of plain weaving, white cane; three rows of triple twist, coloured cane; fourteen rows of plain weaving, white cane; three rows of triple twist, coloured cane. Repeat until the basket is 7 inches high.

BORDER.—In front of two, behind one, in front of one, leaving the end inside.

HANDLE.—Fold the piece of No. 6 cane backward and forward until you have three lengths of

26 inches, leaving the ends in a loop. Exactly in the centre bind it round with flat cane for 2 inches. Fold this into a loop (see that the two ends come evenly), and begin to bend the six pieces of cane together. At 1 inch from the opposite end open the loop-ends, bind them round, and push the end through a few rings of the binding just before the loop; pull it firmly, and cut the end off neatly.

Connect the handle to the basket at the second row of triple twist, counting from the top on either side, with a piece of No. 1 cane.

Take the cane round the three rows of twist and catch in the loop of the handle at the same time.

When the cane has passed through the handle three times, take the ends inside, cross them, and weave round the basket.

LID.—With the twelve spokes of 13 inches make a base until it measures 3 inches across, add three rows of triple twist with coloured cane, then continue weaving until it measures $\frac{3}{4}$ inch less than the top of the basket; the border will bring it to the right size.

For the border of the lid, work behind one, in front of one. The way to make the ring at the top of the lid, the fastener, and hinges has already been described in the "Holly Basket" (page 35).

This basket when finished has a white jar fitted inside, and is most useful for carrying soup, &c., to sick people.

Large District Basket with Wooden Base.

Materials required.—Spokes of No. 4 cane.

A round ring with thirty-one holes—14 inches.

Weave with No. 1 cane.

Place the spokes 2½ inches below the base or ring, then take one spoke behind the next, and in front of No. 3 spoke, and leave it behind. Repeat to the end of the row. This forms an edge under the base.

Then commence the top part by doing three rows of triple twist; fourteen rows of plain weaving; three rows of triple twist; fourteen rows of plain weaving; and three rows of triple twist. Do all the triple twist rows with coloured cane No. 1.

Comeragh Waste Paper Basket.

(Fig. 36.)

Materials required.—12 spokes of No. 13 cane —12 inches.

48 spokes of No. 7 cane—27 inches.

Weave with Nos. 0, 1 and 2 canes.

Weave the base in the ordinary way (Fig. 5, page 12) until it is 9 inches across. Then insert the forty-eight spokes as usual, and turn them up; after so doing weave ten rows of triple twist and six rounds of two colours to make the check pattern (Fig. 36). Work until you have three checks: one row of triple twist; twenty-two rows of plain weaving; one round of triple twist.

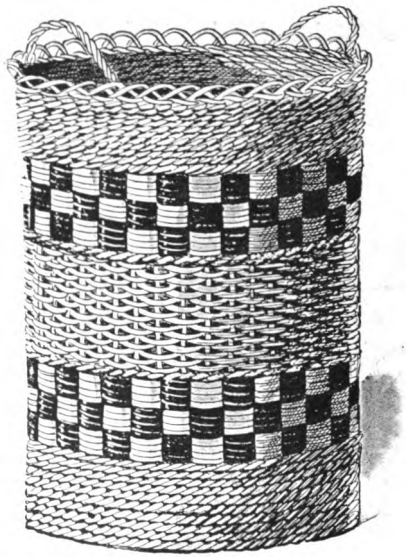

FIG. 36.—COMERAGH WASTE-PAPER BASKET.

Now do your check pattern again—ten rounds of triple twist. Finish with plaited border (Fig. 36).

The handles can be put on at discretion.

Square Basket with Lid.

(Fig. 37.)

Materials required.—Spokes Nos. 7 and 12. Weavers No. 3.

9 spokes of No. 7 cane—22 inches.

2 spokes of No. 12 cane—9 inches.

Commence making a base as in Figs. 26 and 27. When finished this base will measure 9 inches by 6.

Now unscrew the cramp, take out the base, trim off what remains of the thick spokes on either end, and secure the weaver by slipping it through a bar of weaving. (It will be seen that the spokes

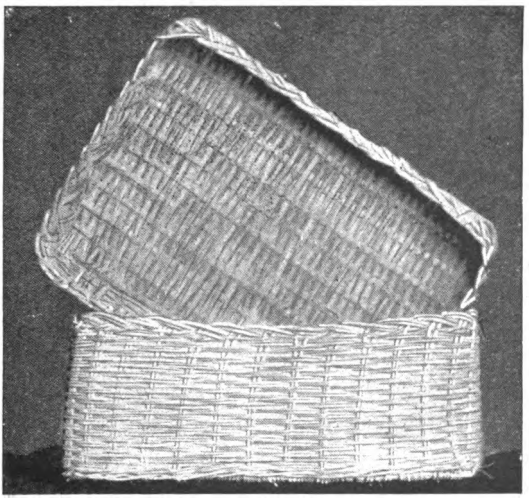

FIG. 37.—SQUARE BASKET WITH LID.

are woven in the base of this basket, and not inserted as in former square baskets.) Now turn the spokes sharply up so that you may secure flat sides from the foundation. In this basket one is very apt to get the spokes rather rounded instead of being perfectly flat and close to the base.

Prepare four pieces of No. 12 cane 4 inches

long, and with a sharp penknife cut a small piece out on one side of the cane about ½ inch up on all four pieces, to allow of the corner pieces fitting a little more closely to the four corners of the base. Secure these in turn as the triple twist proceeds round the foot of the base.

Work four rows of triple twist (No. 3 cane) round the basket, and then do plain weaving with No. 3 cane until the basket is 3 inches deep. The "Cycle Border" (page 25) is the best border for finishing square baskets. It is well before working the border to cut the four small pieces of No. 12 cane level with the weaving, and then to insert four other pieces the same length as the rest of the spokes.

LID.—Spokes of No. 5. Weavers No. 2.

Cut thirteen spokes 15 inches long; seventeen spokes 13 inches long.

Place the thirteen spokes in the cramp (Fig. 26) at intervals of not more than ½ inch, or, better, measure width of basket already done and make lid to fit; this ought to measure 6 inches by 9. Weave seven rows with No. 2 cane, and after every seventh row insert one of the thirteen spokes, leaving 3½ inches on either end for side of lid and border. This must be continued until the piece of work measures 6 inches by 9. Take off the frame, and then turn up the spokes sharply, as was done for the basket.

Work two rows of triple twist, not forgetting to insert four extra pieces of No. 12 cane for corners of lid. Secure these in the same way with triple twist as round foot of base. The lid is made 1 inch deep, including border ("Cycle Border").

Key Basket.

(Figs. 38 to 40.)

Materials required.—Spokes of No. 3 cane, coloured and white.

Oblong wooden base.

36 spokes of No. 3 cane—11 inches.

2 pieces of No. 13 cane—16 inches.

Weave with No. 1 cane, coloured, and 40 flat.

Put the thirty-six spokes through the holes in the wooden base, leaving 3 inches below for the foot, and tie the longer ends together. Round the foot

FIG. 38.—COMMENCING HANDLE OF KEY BASKET.

do four rows of plain weaving and border, behind one, in front of one; leave the end inside to be cut off afterwards.

Now turn the basket up and do two rows of triple twist and twenty-two rows of weaving, using one white and one coloured weaver alternately.

In making this basket great care is necessary to get it a nice shape with a sharp angle at each corner. In order to do this keep the corner spoke pulled outward and press the one on either side well in.

Also be careful to keep an even distance between each spoke. If this is not done, and the spokes are drawn together in some parts, or allowed to get wider in others, the basket will become uneven, and the shape will be spoilt.

HANDLE.—Insert the two pieces of No. 13 cane, one piece on either side of the centre spoke in the side (as shown in Fig. 38), carry over the basket, and insert in the same way on the opposite side.

Get a long strand of No. 40 flat cane, and begin by threading one end from the inside to the outside beside the handle cane and just beneath the border. Pull the end out until it is long enough to be carried on top of the handle to the opposite side and 4 inches over.

Cross it on the outside (as in Fig. 39), take it over the handles to the opposite side, and repeat the cross on the outside; leave the end sticking up against the handle cane.

Now with the long end of cane bind neatly round the handle and flat cane together, keeping one round of cane just meeting the next, and winding tightly.

When the handle has been bound round as close to the border as it can be, cut the flat cane, leaving an end of 3 inches.

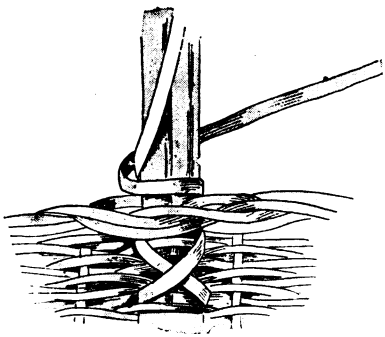

Fig. 39.—Commencing.

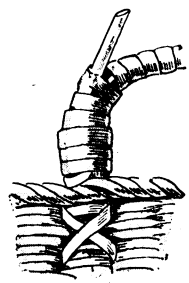

Fig. 40.—Finishing.

BINDING HANDLE OF KEY BASKET.

Without unwinding any of the cane, loosen it by twisting it round in the opposite way to that in which it was wound. When loose enough for about six rings up, push the end up and pull out between the rings (Fig. 40). Twist the cane back again, and pull the end of it until quite tight; then cut off neatly.

Exhibition or Handy Basket.

(Figs. 41 and 42.)

Materials required.—5 spokes of No. 5 cane—8 inches.

9 spokes of ditto—5 inches.

28 spokes of ditto—22 inches.

2 pieces of No. 13 cane—28 inches — for handle.

Weave with Nos. 1 and 2 canes.

Take nine spokes of 5 inches and make a split in the centre of each about 1 inch long. Thread

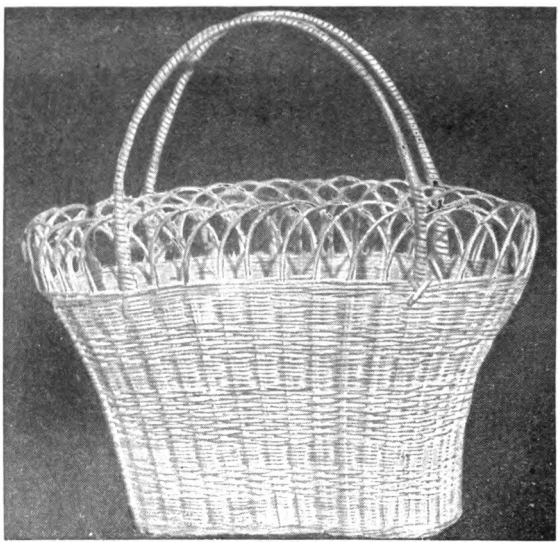

FIG. 41.—EXHIBITION OR HANDY BASKET.

them on to the five spokes of 8 inches, place them out with a space of 3½ inches, and weave the base as in Fig. 6, page 14, until it measures 3 inches across. Cut off the ends of the short spokes and insert the twenty-eight spokes of 22 inches on the right-hand side of each (Fig. 42).

Turn them up sharply, and do two rows of triple twist. Remember in the first row to pull the weaver closely down between the short spoke in the base and the long side spoke, in order that the ends may be well hidden.

Next do six rows simple weaving; one row triple twist with coloured cane, four rows alternately of coloured cane and raffia; one row triple twist; seventeen rows weaving, white or coloured; one row triple twist, coloured; four rows alternately coloured cane and raffia; one row triple twist; six rows weaving; two rows triple twist.

"Open Border II." (Book I., page 35).

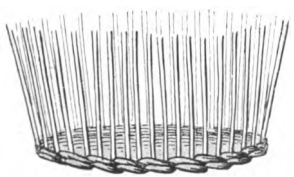

FIG. 42.—BASE AND UPRIGHT SPOKES OF HANDY BASKET.

Draw the ends out about 3 inches at the base, and finish with border—behind one, in front of one, behind one.

While weaving this basket the sides should be kept flat on the table and the spokes pressed in. The sides should be kept quite straight, but the ends should flow out (Fig. 41).

HANDLE.—The pieces of No. 13 cane should be sharpened at the end, and pushed down the side

of the basket to the base. They are bound round with No. 40 flat cane, as for the "Key Basket."

Small Violet Basket.

Materials required.—8 spokes of No. 14 cane—15 inches.

8 spokes of ditto—6 inches.

1 spoke of ditto—8 inches.

2 pieces of No. 8 cane—20 inches (handle).

Weave with Nos. 0 or 1 canes.

In general outline this basket somewhat resembles the "Basket for Table Centre" (Fig. 49, page 89), but the upper portion has two "lips" instead of four.

Make a small base 2¼ inches across, with an odd spoke in one weaver.

Turn the spokes up sharply, and do twenty-six rows of plain weaving, making it slightly barrel-shaped. When these are complete the top of the basket should be the same size as the base.

Now see where the spokes cross at the bottom, trace the four up the side, and place beside each an extra spoke; do the same on the opposite side, thus adding eight extra spokes in all.

Bend down eight spokes on either side sharply, but let the remaining nine remain upright. Go on weaving in between the extra spokes, drawing the weaver as closely down as possible, and gradually spreading out the spokes to form the lip.

While doing this, keep the basket upright on the table, and the lip pressed down with the left hand, or it will not turn down sharply enough.

Do seventeen rows of weaving, and finish off with the border. "Closed Border II.," described in Book I., page 41, does very nicely for this basket, or another pretty border is this:

Place an extra spoke beside each one round the basket, and then, using two together, and working on the top of the basket, take two behind two, then in front of two, and behind two, and leave the ends on the outside. Repeat this round the basket.

With the ends do the half plait, as described for "Madeira Borders" (Chapter III.).

HANDLE.—Two pieces of No. 8 cane of 20 inches, twisted and bent round with two strands of No. 1 cane, as for the "Scotch Knitter" (page 30).

Medium-sized Bridesmaid Basket.

Materials required.—9 spokes of Nos. 2 and 7 cane—41 inches.

1 spoke of No. 2 cane—21 inches.

19 spokes of ditto—22 inches.

1 piece of No. 16 cane—25 inches, and 1 piece of No. 13—25 inches, for the handle.

Weave with No. 1 cane.

This also resembles Fig. 49, only, instead of four curves there are only two. The shape lends itself

beautifully for arranging flowers, when used for little people at a wedding.

Take the nine spokes of 41 inches; and one of 21 inches, and make an ordinary round base with one weaver. When the base measures 2 inches across turn the spokes up sharply, and do four rows of triple twist. Now insert the nineteen spokes of 22 inches.

Run the piercer down beside the spokes, through the four rows of triple twist and out at the bottom; pull it out and run a spoke down the same place, leaving $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches of the spokes projecting from the bottom. Bend these out for the foot of the basket. Do twelve rows of weaving, and finish with the border.

BORDER.—Take one spoke behind one, in front of one, and then leave behind the next. Repeat this round, the last two spokes being threaded behind and in front of those spokes already turned down. The ends of the spokes must be cut off neatly afterwards. Stand the basket up and do twenty-five rows of plain weaving, using the two spokes together as one, and keeping the shape almost straight. When the twenty-five rows are done, the top should not measure more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches across.

Now the double spokes must be divided and ten spokes on either side turned down sharply to form the lip of the basket, while the other still remains upright. Keep the ten pressed down with

the left hand as you work round the lip, and keep the spokes well spread out. Do one row of pairing, drawing the weaver closely down between each spoke. Do twenty rows of plain weaving.

"Flat Plait Border" (page 26) can also be used for this basket.

HANDLE.—Bind the canes round with four pieces of No. 1 cane.

Oblong Madeira Flower Basket.

(Fig. 43.)

Materials required.—Canes Nos. 0, 4, and 13 for handle; No. 40 flat.

5 spokes of No. 4 cane—9 inches—for base.

11 spokes of ditto—5 inches—for base.

32 spokes of ditto—5 inches—for sides.

192 spokes of No. 0 cane—14 inches—for border.

2 pieces of No. 13 cane—20 inches—for handles.

2 strands of No. 40 flat, for binding handles.

Make an oval base, 8 inches by 3 inches. To do this, the spokes crossing the base must be within 5½ inches, counting from the double spokes at either end (see Figs. 6 and 7).

When the base is the desired size, cut off the ends of the spokes close to the weaving, and then insert the thirty-two spokes, one on the right-hand side of each short spoke, keeping the same side of the base uppermost as when weaving it.

When all the spokes are in, turn them up sharply,

and do three rows of triple twist. In doing the first row of twist, bring the weaver between each long and short spoke. By doing this the short ends are covered, and this gives the basket a better finish.

Now do twenty-two rows of plain weaving, keeping the basket sideways on the table, and

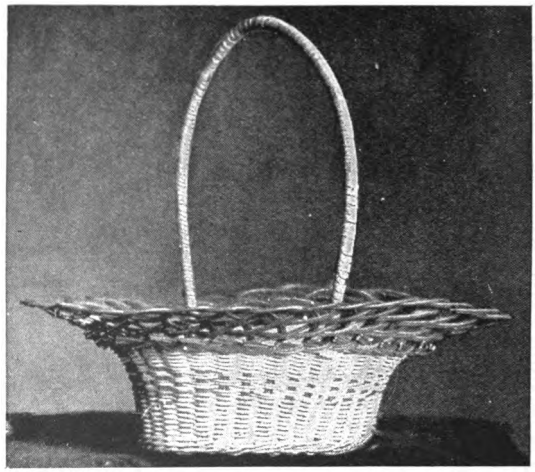

FIG. 43.—OBLONG MADEIRA FLOWER BASKET.

pressing the spokes inward and keeping them as straight as possible. Next do two rows of pairing.

Cut off the ends of the spokes close to the weaving and insert the spokes for the border, placing one on one side and two on the other of each spoke round the basket.

These three spokes will be used together, and to prevent confusion are spoken of as one in the description of the border ("Madeira Border IV.," page 24).

BORDER.—Begin at one side and take one spoke behind three spokes, in front of two spokes, behind two spokes, in front of two, and behind two. Draw the one spoke round in a curve, and leave the ends on the outside of the basket (Fig. 43). Width between the top of the curved spoke and the edge of basket, about $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Repeat round the basket and thread the last upright spokes through the spokes already turned down in the same order. When this part of the border is finished, plait the ends as in Figs. 42 and 43, Book I.

HANDLE.—The handle canes must be inserted in the basket on the inside of the border beside the first two single spokes, which cross the base at the end; then with a piece of No. 40 flat cane bind them round. Thread the flat cane from the inside round the handle cane just below the plait; take one end over the handle and thread from inside to outside below the plait. With the other end bind neatly round the handle until the top of the border is reached; take the flat cane once round the curved spokes to fasten it to the handle. When the other side is reached secure the border to the handle in same the way, and then continue to

bind round the handle by threading the cane between it and the border.

Thread the piece of cane outside the basket round the handle to the inside, cross the two ends, and weave round a short way on either side to keep the ends secure.

Coffee or Breakfast Tray.

(Figs. 44 and 45.)

Materials required.—Wooden tray-base—16 inches by 8 inches.

Canes Nos. 6 and 2.

71 spokes of No. 6 cane.

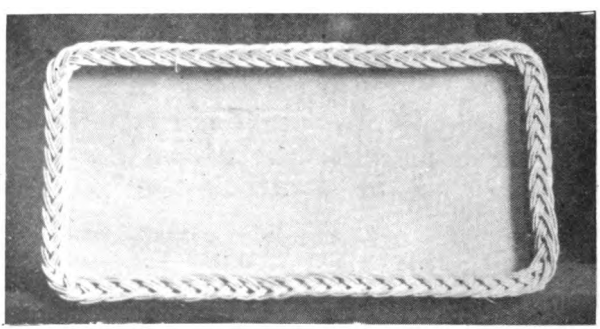

FIG. 44.—COFFEE OR BREAKFAST TRAY.

Damp the ends of the spokes, and proceed to insert them into the holes in the wooden base, leaving 3 inches underneath.

When six spokes are in, begin doing the border;

take the first spoke behind the next, in front of one, and push the end inside (Fig. 45); repeat all round. This is a much simpler method than trying to insert all the spokes before doing the border, as they so easily fall from the holes.

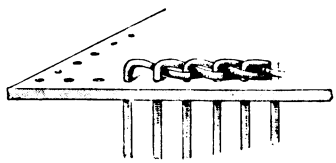

FIG. 45.—BASE OF COFFEE TRAY.

When this under-border is done, turn the tray up, and pull all the spokes outward; then with No. 2 cane do five rows of triple twist.

BORDER.—"Flat Plait" (page 26).

Small Cycle Basket.

(Fig. 46.)

Materials required.—Canes Nos. 7, 6, 4, 2, 1, 0; No. 40 flat.

5 spokes of No. 6 cane—26 inches.

11 spokes of No. 6 cane—21 inches.

5 spokes of No. 4 cane—14 inches.

13 spokes of No. 4 cane—9 inches.

6 spokes of No. 6 cane—5 inches.

Partition (see page 84).

Two leather straps and buckles.

Split the eleven spokes of 21 inches in the centre, and thread on to the five spokes of 26 inches. Place the spokes crossing within a space of $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches, and weave an oval base 7 inches by $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Turn the spokes up sharply, and do two rows of triple twist, seven rows of plain weaving, three rows of No. 40 flat and round alternately, and three rows of plain weaving.

FIG. 46.—CYCLE BASKET.

Now insert the six spokes of 5 inches. Miss the centre spoke at the side, but place an extra spoke on either side of the spoke right and left of it. Then beside the next spoke right and left place one extra spoke.

When the weavers reach the first lot of double spokes leave the lower weaver, but twist the top weaver round the two spokes twice, and weave back the reverse way until the other double spokes

are reached, when the weaver should be twisted back again in the same way. Weave backwards and forwards like this until five rows are done.

Take the other weaver to the second lot of three spokes, twist round twice, and carry it back to the other three spokes; weave to and fro until five rows are done, then continue right round the basket again in the ordinary way until four rows of weaving are done.

Do three rows of No. 40 flat and round, four rows of plain weaving, and two rows of triple twist.

BORDER.—The "Cycle Border" (page 25).

In working this basket it should be kept as much as possible flat on a table, so that the sides, while weaving, can be pressed down, only the end spokes slanting out a little.

LID.—If the top of this basket is 9 inches by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, the cross spokes of the lid must not exceed 6 inches from end to end, to allow of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches weaving at either end. The depth of weaving to be allowed for at either end is always determined by the width of the basket. For one $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch is taken up by the five spokes going down the centre: the 3 inches divided gives $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches on either side. As the amount of weaving going right round is the same, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches is allowed at either end, which, with the 6 inches taken up by the cross-spokes, will bring the lid to the right length (9 inches). Should the length be more than

9 inches, and the width the same, the extra length must be allowed for between the space allotted to the cross-spokes.

The lid is worked on the same principle as the base, except that after six or eight rows of weaving, three rows of flat cane are woven round; then plain weaving is continued until the desired size is reached.

For the border of the lid, point the ends of the spokes, and push each one down beside the next, pressing each curve close in against the weaving.

Affix a handle in the same way as for the "Key Basket" (page 68), and attach the straps and buckles for fastening, by little pins (which can be procured at the "School of Basket Making," 89, New Bond Street, W.

Alexandra Travelling Basket.

(Fig. 47.)

Materials required.—Canes Nos. 0, 2, 7, 16, and 40.

5 pieces of No. 7 cane—12½ inches.
15 pieces of No. 7 cane—4½ inches.
46 pieces of No. 7 cane—19 inches.
2 pieces of No. 16 cane—23 inches.

With the five pieces of No. 7 cane of 12½ inches and the fifteen of 4½ inches make an oblong base 11½ inches by 3½ inches. Cut off the ends of the spokes close to the weaving, and insert one spoke of 19 inches on the right-hand side of each. This

will leave six spokes over, three of which must be inserted at either end, and the other two on the left-hand side of each end of the last short spoke, crossing the five long ones. These extra spokes

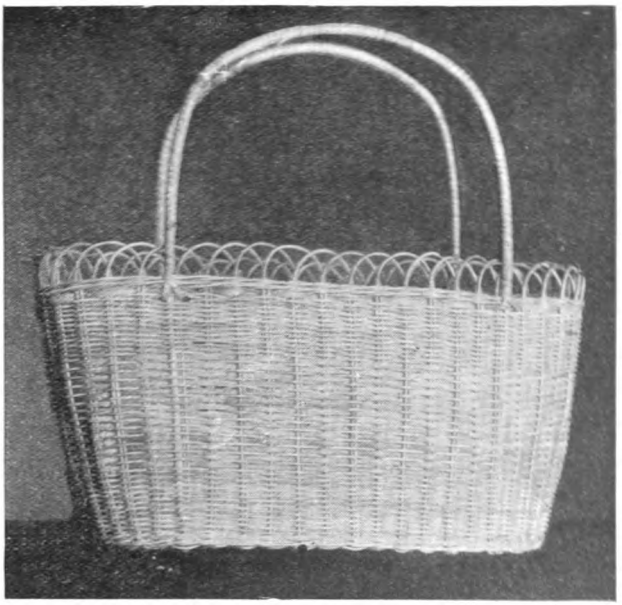

FIG. 47.—ALEXANDRA TRAVELLING BASKET.

are added in order that there may not be too wide a space between the end spokes.

Now turn all the spokes up sharply. Get three strands of No. 2 cane, insert the ends beside three of the end spokes in succession, and do four rows

of triple twist. Remember in doing the first row to bring the weavers firmly down between the side spoke and the short spoke in the base, otherwise the basket will look loose and untidy round the bottom. All the four rows of triple twist should be drawn tightly, so that the side of the basket may not bulge out.

Next do six rows of plain weaving, four of triple twist, six of flat and round cane alternately, four of triple twist, six of flat and round cane, four of triple twist, six of plain weaving, and four of triple twist.

BORDER.—"Open Border II." (page 35 in Book I.), or "Cycle Border" (page 25 of this volume).

HANDLES.—The handles are placed one on either side, and bound round in the same way as described for the "Key Basket" (page 68). An effective finish is given to them if a piece of flat cane long enough to reach over each handle be cut, the end bound in with the first six rounds, then turned back for the next six, and carried along and bound in again, repeating until the other side is reached.

PARTITION.—For this cut nine pieces of No. 7 cane of 13 inches. Place two pieces flat together on a table. Fold a strand of No. 2 cane, having one end ½ yard long. Slip the loop over the two pieces of cane 3 inches from the end nearest the worker. Place another spoke ½ inch further on and pair

round. Continue to pair the spokes in until you have a piece measuring $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches—just the size of the base, and having double spokes at either end. Turn it over from right to left, take one weaver over and the other under the end spokes; then pair across again.

Now leave the short weaver, and continue weaving to and fro with the other, taking it twice round the end spokes at every second row. Some flat cane can be woven across the top to agree with that in basket.

When the weaving done is 7 inches, or the same depth as the side of the basket without the border, cut the weaver short, and push the end down beside one of the end spokes. Cut off the inside one of the double end spokes close to the weaving. For border do "Open Border I." (Book I., page 34).

When the further end is reached, and a spoke has been pushed down beside the spoke before the end one, that spoke must be cut off and the end spoke bent over in the reverse way and pushed down beside it.

The border at the bottom of the partition must be pushed in close to the weaving, but at the top it should be left in loops.

The partition is fixed in beside the spokes where the handles are placed, and secured in its position with a piece of No. 2 cane; crossed on

the outside, then taken inside and through the partition, then brought outside and crossed, the ends being woven into the basket. Repeat on the opposite side.

For the paper-straps, thread two pieces of No. 2 cane round the handle cane at the bottom of the basket, twist them until there is a length of twisted cane to reach to the top, thread to the inside, cross, and weave the ends into the basket.

Repeat this down beside the other end of the handle.

Small Circular Rose Tray.

Materials required.—Canes No. 13, 0, 2, 4, 6.

12 pieces of No. 13 cane—11 inches.

24 pieces of No. 13 cane—4 inches.

48 spokes of No. 6 cane—13 inches.

48 spokes of No. 6 cane—4 inches.

Weave with Nos. 0 and 2.

This is a circular basket 8½ inches in diameter, and with edge about 2 inches high.

With the twelve pieces of No. 13 cane weave round the base with two weavers. Start weaving with No. 0 cane, and when the base measures 4 inches in diameter use No. 2 cane; then weave round until the base measures 8½ inches across.

Insert the twenty-four pieces of No. 13 cane, and divide them with four rows of triple twist

(No. 4 cane). Cut off the ends of the spokes and insert the forty-eight spokes of No. 6 cane of 13 inches. Turn up sharply with five rows of triple twist No. 2 cane, and finish with "Flat Plait Border" (page 26). Turn the tray upside down, insert the forty-eight spokes of No. 6 cane into the triple twist up the sides, and with the ends make a border behind one and in front of one. This forms a ridge round the bottom, and the tray stands firmer.

Oval Tray with Wooden Base.

(Fig. 48.)

Work this on the same lines as the "Coffee or Breakfast Tray," described on page 78, Fig. 44. The

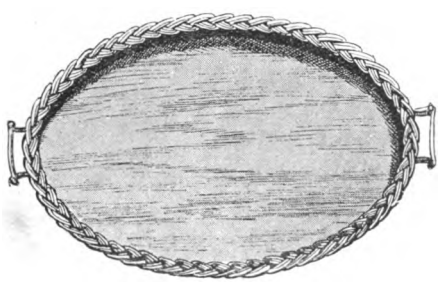

FIG. 48.—OVAL TRAY WITH WOODEN BASE.

wooden bases are much improved if a Poker Work design is worked on them.

Message Basket with Rush Fancy Border.

(See Frontispiece.)

This is a useful little basket with a rush border, which makes a change from the ordinary cane borders. "Message Basket" is a Scotch name for a shopping basket.

Egg Basket No. I.

(See Frontispiece.)

This is made on the same lines as an ordinary round basket, with an odd number of spokes.

Spokes No. 8; weavers No. 3; a rush handle; and No. 16 cane.

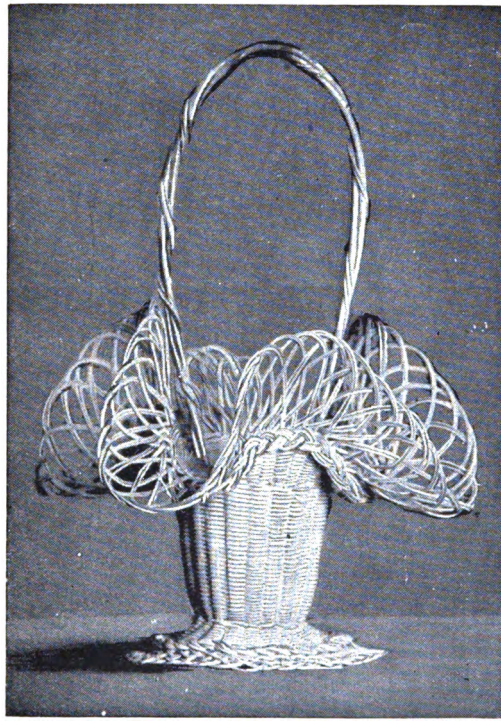

FIG. 49.—BASKET FOR TABLE CENTRE.

BASKET FOR TABLE CENTRE.

(Fig. 49.)

This is a very artistic little basket with "Madeira Border." It is worked on the same principle as the "Small Violet Basket" (page 72), and with the same number of cane, but has four scallops instead of two.

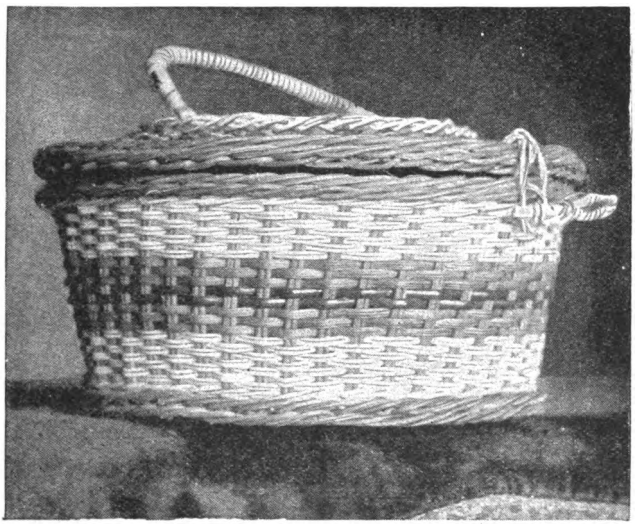

FIG. 50.—EDITH WORK BASKET.

EDITH WORK BASKET.

(Fig. 50.)

Made of No. 7 cane for spokes, and Nos. 2 and 40 flat for weaving. The illustration shows clearly the method of working.

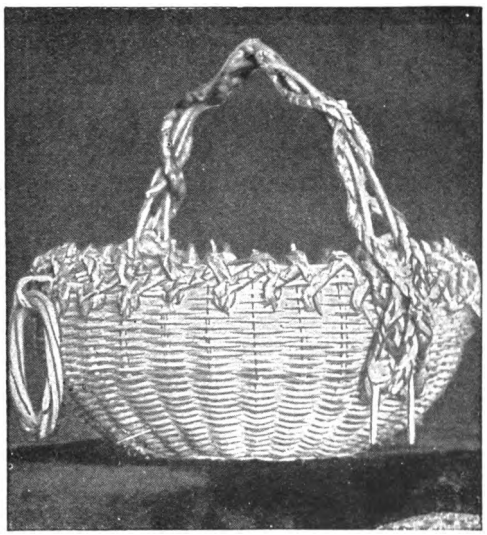

FIG. 51.—EGG BASKET NO. II.

EGG BASKET No. II.

(Fig. 51.)

This is worked in much the same way as the "Message Basket" (see Frontispiece and page 88). It makes a charming gift when filled with eggs.

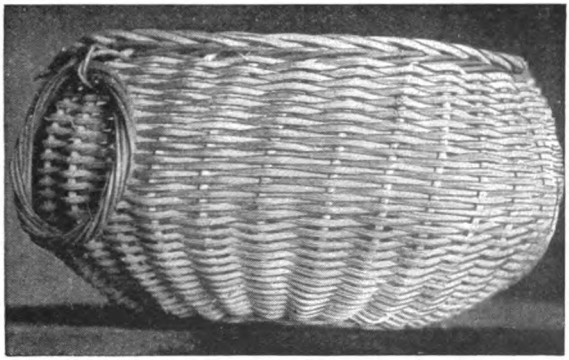

FIG. 52.—CHALDRON WORK BASKET.

CHALDRON WORK BASKET.

(Fig. 52.)

This is necessarily made with rather thick cane in order to secure a good shape. It is one of the most useful little work baskets that can be produced

Spokes No. 9; weavers No. 5.

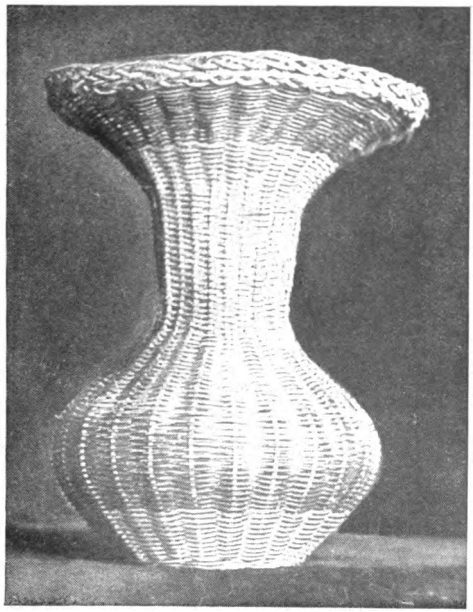

FIG. 53.—PAINT-BRUSH BASKET.

ARTIST'S PAINT-BRUSH BASKET.

(Fig. 53.)

This basket is most useful for artists. A piece of lead is placed inside, before the basket is drawn in to make it bottle shape.

Spokes No. 6 ; weavers No. 1.

FIG. 54.—STRAWBERRY BASKET.

STRAWBERRY BASKET.

(Fig. 54.)

This basket speaks for itself. It is made mostly of green rush, and of No. 9 cane for spokes, and No. 4 for weaving.

The handles are of No. 16 cane.

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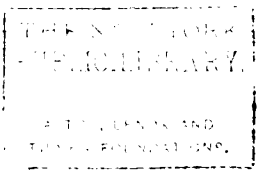

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ERRATUM.

Page 10, Fig. 2, *for* Two Spokes *read* Six Spokes.

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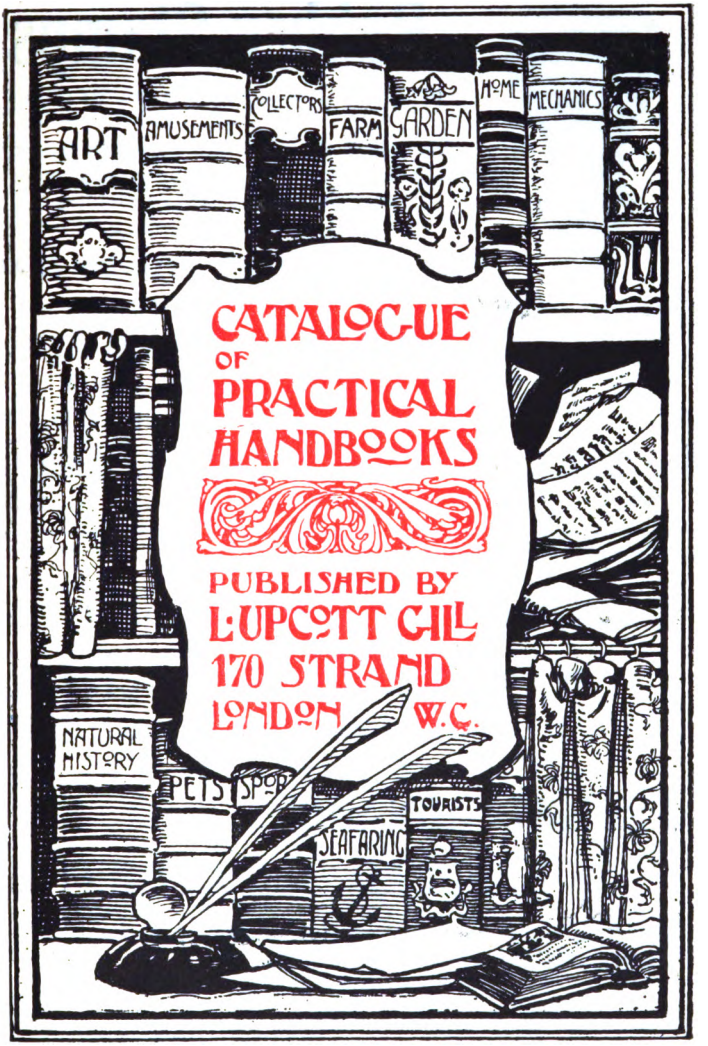
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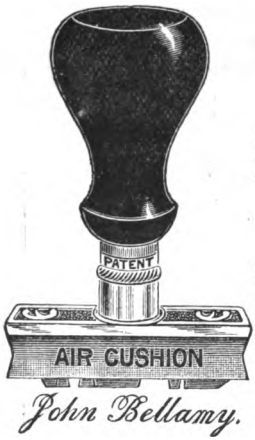

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